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REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 108-109, 111-127, and 144-147 are pending. Claims 6-47 and claims 89-107, 110 are cancelled. Non-entered claims 128-143 are cancelled. Non-elected claims 48-84 are currently cancelled. Claims 111-115 and 117-127 are currently amended. Claims 143-147 are previously added but not entered. Claims 143-147 are currently amended.

Applicants thank Examiner Hutson for discussing the pending claims during the interview of August 10th. During the interview, Examiner Hutson and Applicants' representatives, Michelle M. Deng and Mark Fitzgerald, discussed claims 1, 5, 108-109, 111-127, and 144-147. Examiner Hutson kindly agreed to consider the amendment after final rejection.

Applicants submit that claims 89-107, 110 and 128-143 are cancelled solely for the purpose of expediting the prosecution of the present application and without prejudice to their pursuance in a continuing or divisional application.

Claims 1, 5, 108-109, 115-121, 126-127 are allowed as indicated in the Advisory Action. Applicants submit that the allowed claims 115, and 117-121 are amended for clarity purpose in response to claim objections as set forth in the final Office Action mailed October 17, 2003. No new matter is added.

Claims 111-114 are amended to be depending from the allowed claims 108 and 109. The amendments are supported in claims 110-114 as previously presented. No new matter is added.

Amended claims 122-127 are kit claims depending from the allowed claims 108 and 109. No new matter is added.

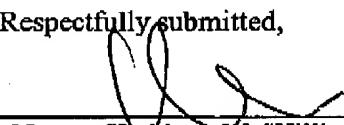
Claims 143-147 are rejoined method claims drawn to method of making recombinant polymerase of allowed claims 1, 108 and 109, respectively. Therefore, each of claims 143-147 encompasses all limitations of their respective allowed product claims 1, 108 and 109. The claimed method in claims 143-147 is supported in withdrawn method claims 79-84 as originally filed, and in the specification, e.g., on pages 11-22, 63-66, and 70-86. No new matter is added.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all pending claims are allowable as written and respectfully request early favorable action by the Examiner. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicant's attorney would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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